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Message Text

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21
ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DEAE-00 SNM-02 OMB-01 AID-20 RSC-01

/045 W
---------- 118718
R 310016Z AUG 74
FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3588

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: SNAR MX
SUBJECT: ARA NARCOTICS CONFERENCE.

REF: STATE 190509

1. EMBASSY CONCURS IN AND WELCOMES DEPARTMENT PROPOSAL TO HOLD ANNUAL ARA NARCOTICS COORDINATORS CONFERENCE IN MEXICO CITY. EMBASSY PLANS TO RESERVE BLOCK OF ROOMS IN MARIA ISABEL SHERATON (SINGLE $22/DAY, DOUBLE $24/DAY), ADJACENT TO THE EMBASSY. EMBASSY AUDITORIUM HAS AMPLE SPACE FOR THIS SIZE GROUP AND IS SUITABLE FROM SECURITY STANDPOINT. NARCOTICS CONFERENCE CONTROL OFFICERS WILL BE FSO FRANCESCO J. ALBERTI AND FSSO DAVID PATON.

2. AS DEPARTMENT (ARA) IS INFORMALLY AWARE, EMBASSY HAD ALSO BEGUN PLANS TO HOLD A THREE-DAY CONFERENCE OF PRINCIPAL OFFICERS OF MEXICAN CONSTITUENT POSTS IN LATE OCTOBER. NARCOTICS WOULD BE A MAJOR AGENDA ITEM AND FOR THIS REASON WE HAD CONTEMPLATED INVITING ATTENDANCE OF MANY OF THE SAME PEOPLE WHO WILL ATTEND THE REGIONAL NARCOTICS CONFERENCE. WE COULD HOLD PO CONFERENCE OCT 8-10, WITH AT LEAST ONE-HALF DAY OF THIS OVERLAP DEVOTED TO THE MEXICAN NARCOTICS SITUATION. ARA NARCOTICS CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD OCT 10-11, AS PROPOSED.

3. ONE DIFFICULTY WITH ABOVE POSSIBILITY IS HOTEL SPACE.
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AS NOTED ABOVE, MARIA ISABEL SHERATON IS IDEALLY SITUATED,

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BUT COULD NOT, ON BASIS PRESENT INDICATIONS, ACCOMMODATE GROUP OF THIS CONTEMPLATED SIZE ON OCTOBER 10. TWO ALTERNATIVES TO ABOVE POSSIBILITY WOULD BE TO HOLD PO CONFERENCE OCT 21-23 OVERLAPPING WITH NARCOTICS CONFERENCE OCT 23-24 OR FOR SIMILAR ARRANGEMENT OCT 28-30 WITH NARCOTICS CONFERENCE OCT 30-31. HOTEL SPACE THOSE DATES WOULD PRESENT NO PROBLEMS.

4. PURPOSE OF PO CONFERENCE WOULD BE TO REVIEW AND TO EXCHANGE VIEWS CONCERNING IMPORTANT POLICIES RELATING TO POLITICAL, ECONOMIC-COMMERCIAL, CONSULAR, NARCOTICS AND MANAGEMENT AFFAIRS FOR MUTUAL BENEFIT OF EMBASSY, CONSULAR POSTS, AND THE DEPARTMENT. PROPOSE INVITE SENIOR OFFICERS FROM ARA, SCS, M, M/DG, S/CCT.

4. ACTION REQUESTED SOONEST: DEPARTMENT DECISION

(1) WHETHER TWO CONFERENCES COULD BE SCHEDULED TO OVERLAP ONE DAY, AND

(2) WHICH OF THESE POSSIBLE DATES MOST SUITABLE IN LIGHT OF INFO PARA 3.
JOVA

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